



U.S. Department of Justice

Ronald C. Machen Jr.
*United States Attorney for the
District of Columbia*

*Judiciary Center
555 Fourth St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530*

PRESS RELEASE

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For Information Contact:**Public Affairs**

(202) 514-6933

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Five Men Indicted For Roles in Series of Crimes That Led to Five Deaths, Other Injuries - Defendants Arraigned Today on Murder, Other Charges -

WASHINGTON - Five men have been indicted and arraigned on charges in a 24-count indictment stemming from a series of violent crimes in March 2010 that culminated in a deadly drive-by shooting on South Capitol Street, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. and Cathy L. Lanier, Chief of the Metropolitan Police Department, announced today.

A grand jury returned the indictments on December 16, 2010 in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. The defendants were arraigned this afternoon before the Honorable Judge Lynn Leibovitz and are to return to court for a status hearing on April 22, 2011. The judge scheduled trial in the case for January 30, 2012.

The defendants include Sanquan Carter, 20; his brother, Orlando Carter, 21; Jeffrey Best, 22, Robert Bost, 22, and Lamar Williams, 22, all of Washington, D.C. All have been in custody since their arrests earlier this year.

The grand jury indicted Sanquan Carter, Orlando Carter, Best and Williams for crimes that took place on March 22, 2010, including the murder of 20-year-old Jordan Howe and the assault with intent to kill of Tavon Lambert, as well as various weapons offenses. The victims were shot in the 1300 block of Alabama Avenue SE.

In addition, the indictment charges Orlando Carter, Jeffrey Best, and Robert Bost with the attempted armed robbery and murder of Tavon Nelson, 17, on March 30, 2010, together with related weapons offenses. That crime took place in the unit block of Galveston Street, SW.

Further, the indictment charges Orlando Carter, Jeffrey Best, Robert Bost, and Lamar Williams with the March 30, 2010 murders of Brishell Jones, 16, Davaughn Boyd, 18, and William Jones, 19, and with related weapons offenses. The victims were shot early that evening

while gathered in the 4000 block of South Capitol Street SE.

In addition to the various substantive crimes specified in the indictment, the indictment also charges the defendants with specified “aggravating circumstances.” If these are eventually found by a jury at trial, the defendants could face a maximum sentence of life imprisonment without the possibility of release.

The case remains under investigation.

An indictment is merely a formal allegation that a defendant has committed a violation of criminal laws and every defendant is presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty.

In announcing the indictment, U.S. Attorney Machen and Chief Lanier praised the extraordinary efforts of the Metropolitan Police Department in this investigation and took note of the hard work of Detectives Oliver Garvey, Anthony Patterson, Jeffrey Owens, Darryl Richmond, Susan Blue, Jeffrey Mayberry, Mitchell Credle, Eduardo Voysest and Timothy Francis. They also praised MPD Evidence Technicians Curtis Lancaster, Julius D. Smith, Ralph Nitz, and Paul Nelson, as well as Officers Brian Brown, Christopher Dyke, Jeremy Bank, James O’Bannon and Sean Hodges, all of the Seventh Police District.

In addition, they thanked numerous people from the U.S. Attorney’s Office for their contributions, including Paralegal Specialists Kwasi Fields, Wanda Queen and Debra Joyner; Leif Hickling, of the Litigation Technology Unit, and Victim-Witness Advocates Marcia Rinker and Jennifer Clark. Finally, they praised Assistant U.S. Attorneys Michael D. Brittin and Bruce R. Hegyi, who are prosecuting these matters.

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